

C L A I M S

1. An access member adapted to be, in a position of use, accommodated in an artificial or a natural canal in a user, said access member having an outer end and an inner end and extending, in the position of use, from the outside of the body of the user through said canal and into the urinary bladder, and comprising at least one wall defining at least one cavity extending substantially throughout said predetermined length, said at least one cavity being intended for intermittently receiving a catheter, characterized in that said at least one wall of the access member has such a degree of flexibility that said at least one cavity is kept in a substantially closed position by the mutual contact of parts of said at least one wall, but allows for intermittent insertion of a catheter.

2. An access member according to claim 1, characterized in that the wall or walls of the access member comprise(s) a foil or film material.

3. An access member according to claim 1, characterized in that the wall or walls of the access member comprise(s) a foam or a gel.

4. An access member according to any of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that at least one part of the wall or walls of the access member comprises a net material of eg. metal.

5. An access member according to any of claims 1 to 4, characterized by comprising one wall forming a substantially hose-shaped access member.

6. An access member according to any of claims 1 to 4, characterized by comprising at least two walls which are formed by sheets of material having substantially larger dimensions in the longitudinal direction than in the transverse direction and being

joined at the respective longitudinally extending edges.

7. An access member according to claim 6, characterized in that said sheets are joined by means of welding, adhesion or any other suitable joining technique.

8. An access member according to claim 6 or 7, characterized in that said sheets have different thicknesses.

9. An access member according to any of claims 6 to 8, characterized in that said sheets have different degrees of flexibility.

10. An access member according to any of claims 6 to 9, characterized in that at least one blind hole is provided in at least one of said sheets.

11. An access member according to any of claims 6 to 9, in which there are at least three sheets and two cavities, characterized in that one of said cavities is closed at a distance from the outer end of the access member.

12. An access member according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that the inner end of the access member is designed as a cap having a number of openings.

13. An access member according to any of the preceding claims, characterized by comprising means for securing the outer end of the access member to the abdominal skin surface.

14. An access member according to claim 13, characterized in that said means comprises a plate-shaped member.

15. An access member according to claim 13, characterized in that the plate-shaped member is fastened to the skin surface by means of an adhesive.

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16. An access member according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that a plug member is provided for insertion into the outer end of said at least one through-going cavity.

5 17. A system for catheterization of the urinary bladder through an artificial or a natural canal in a user, comprising a catheter adapted to be inserted through the canal, and an access member according to any of claims 1 to 16.

10 18. A method of replacing an access member according to claim 1, in which a first access member positioned in said canal is removed and a second, substitute access member is inserted shortly afterwards, or a second, substitute access member is
15 introduced through the first access member positioned in said canal whereafter the first access member is removed.